

U.S. Serial No. 09/462,846

of the entire set of pending claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(3) as they would appear following entry of this amendment is attached as Appendix II.

**CLEAN VERSION OF REWRITTEN, ADDED, AND/OR CANCELLED CLAIMS  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.121 (c)(1)(i)**

1. (Twice Amended) A *Bacillus subtilis* having a mutation or deletion of part or all of the gene encoding cysteine protease-1 CP1, wherein said gene encodes the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, and said mutation or deletion results in the inactivation of the CP1 proteolytic activity.

13. (Thrice Amended) A method for the production of a heterologous protein in a transformed *Bacillus* host cell comprising the steps of:

- (a) obtaining a *Bacillus* host cell comprising a nucleic acid encoding said heterologous protein wherein said host cell contains a mutation or deletion in at least one of the genes encoding *B. subtilis* cysteine protease 1, wherein said at least one of the genes encoding cysteine protease 1 encodes the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2; and
- (b) growing said *Bacillus* host cell under conditions suitable for the expression of said heterologous protein.

14. (Twice Amended) The method of Claim 13 wherein said *Bacillus* host cell is selected from the group consisting of *Bacillus subtilis*, *B. licheniformis*, *B. lentus*, *B. brevis*, *B. stearothermophilus*, *B. alkalophilus*, *B. amyloliquefaciens*, *B. coagulans*, *B. circulans*, *B. lautus*, and *B. thuringiensis*.

20. (Amended) The method of Claim 13, wherein said at least one of the genes encoding cysteine protease 1 comprises the nucleic acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

U.S. Serial No. 09/462,846

Please add the following new Claims:

22. A *Bacillus subtilis* cysteine protease-1 encoded by a nucleic acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:1.

23. A *Bacillus subtilis* cysteine protease-1 set forth in an amino acid sequence comprising SEQ ID NO:2.